

## Interpretation Master Plan California State Parks Public Workshops, April 24/25, 2009

# Mount San Jacinto State Park Existing Interpretation and Education Features

## Interpretation Plan Section from

### Mount San Jacinto State Park General Plan, 2002 (p. 50)

### Interpretation

Interpretation helps connect visitors to Mount San Jacinto State Park's significant natural, cultural, and recreational resources. Themes guide the interpretation of these resources by defining a point of view.

**Goal:** Expand the visitor's awareness, understanding and appreciation of the Park's significant natural, cultural, and aesthetic resources.

**Unifying Theme:** Mount San Jacinto State Park is unique because of its wilderness designation - an area "where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

**Primary Theme 1:** Because Mount San Jacinto State Park is a wilderness, people need to treat it with respect.

**Supporting Theme 1A:** Many characteristics make it Wilderness.

**Supporting Theme 1B:** Wilderness can be dangerous, but it doesn't have to be.

**Supporting Theme 1C:** Practicing wilderness etiquette preserves the experience for everyone.

Supporting Theme 1D: Wilderness Recreation offers many unique opportunities.

**Primary Theme 2:** Mount San Jacinto State Park wilderness protects many unique and fragile habitats.

**Supporting Theme 2A:** The high mountain wilderness of Mount San Jacinto State Park shelters some very special plants.

**Topic 2A1:** Subalpine Forests (fire ecology)

**Topic 2A2:** Montane Meadows (hydrology - nature's plumbing)

**Topic 2A3:** Life on the Edge (at timberline)

**Topic 2A4:** Riparian / Wetland Areas (most threatened)

**Topic 2A5:** Chaparral (fire ecology)

**Topic 2A6:** The threat of exotic weeds

**Supporting Theme 2B:** Mount San Jacinto provides critical habitat for some fascinating wildlife.

Topic 2B1: The diversity of wildlife

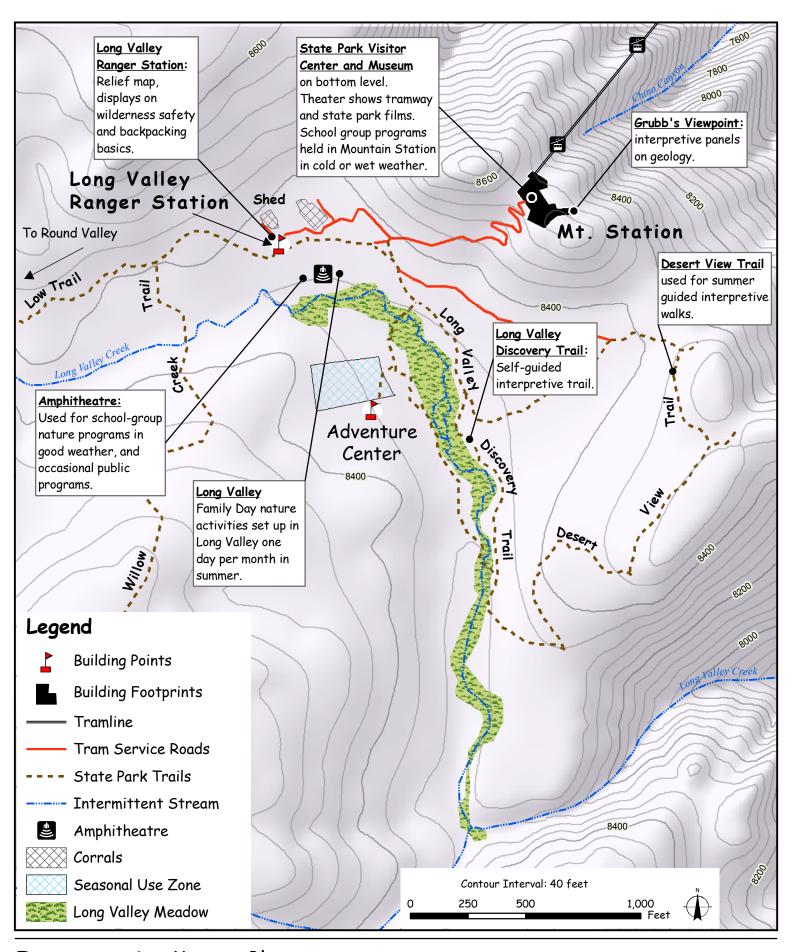
**Topic 2B2:** Human / Wildlife interaction (feeding, habituation)

Topic 2B3: Linking - Biocorridors

**Topic 2B4:** Microhabitats (Cliffs, vernal pools, etc.)

Supporting Theme 2C: Mount San Jacinto is unique because of its "Island Biogeography."

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**Secondary Theme 1:** Mount San Jacinto State Park lands show the marks of past people and their cultures. In some areas a cultural landscape shows the interrelationship between natural and cultural features.

**Supporting Theme 1A:** The prehistoric Cahuilla people used these mountains for hunting and gathering as well as for sacred purposes.

**Supporting Theme 1B:** Historic logging partially shaped this landscape.

**Supporting Theme 1C:** Cattlemen and sheepherders also left their mark.

**Supporting Theme 1D:** The CCC developed the Park we use today.

**Supporting Theme 1E:** A tramway comes into the wilderness.

**Secondary Theme 2:** Mount San Jacinto and the surrounding Peninsular Range were shaped by powerful geological processes.

\* Guideline in the Cultural Resources plan section (p. 48) states that interpretation will be developed with the Cahuilla, and will also cover their continuing presence in the park.

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